U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

RULES OF PROCEDURE

ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 7, 1989

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H522-1

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ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS

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RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule I. The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

Rule II. Committee Meetings

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Tuesday of each week while the Congress is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) At least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) before each scheduled Committee or subcommittee meeting, each Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall be furnished a list of the bill(s) and subject(s) to be considered and/or acted upon at the meeting. Bills or subjects not listed shall be subject to a point of order unless their consideration is agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or subcommittee.

(d) The Chairman, with such notice to the ranking Minority Member as is practicable, may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Chairman.

(e) Committee and subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e., meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee, by majority vote, determines otherwise.

(f) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon the demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(g) In all subcommittee proceedings where a vote on a motion to report a bill to the full Committee results in a tie, such bill shall be reported to the full Committee without recommendation.

(h) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any subcommittee thereof, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(i) A complete transcript shall be made of any full Committee meeting, or any portion thereof, upon the request of any Member of the Committee made before the close of business of the preceding day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

Rule III. Hearings

(a) The Committee or any subcommittee shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing, unless the Committee or the subcommittee before which such hearing is scheduled, determines that there is good cause to begin such hearing at an earlier date, in which event it shall make public announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee, by majority vote, determines otherwise.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before any subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members. For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the full Committee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of 10 Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

Rule IV. Proxy Voting. A vote by any Member of the Committee, with respect to any measure or matter being considered in the Committee or in subcommittee, may be cast by proxy if the proxy authorization is in writing, asserts that the Member is absent on official business or is otherwise unable to be present at the meeting of the Committee, designates the person who is to execute the proxy authorization, and is limited to a specific measure or matter and any amendments or motion pertaining thereto; except that a Member may authorize a general proxy for motions to recess, adjourn or other procedural matters. Each proxy to be effective shall be signed by the Member assigning his or her vote and shall contain the date and time that the proxy is signed. Proxies may not be counted for a quorum.

Rule V. Broadcasting. When approved by a majority vote, an open meeting or hearing of the Committee or a subcommittee may be covered, in whole or in part, by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, subject to the provisions of House Rule XI, clause (3). In order to enforce the provisions of said rule or to maintain an acceptable standard of dignity, propriety, and decorum, the Chairman may order such alteration, curtailment, or discontinuance of coverage as he determines necessary.

Rule VI. Standing Subcommittees

(a) There shall be seven standing subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:

(1) *Subcommittee on Economic and Commerical Law:* Antitrust, bankruptcy, commercial law, economic regulation generally, judgeships, Federal budget matters, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(2) *Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Administration of Justice:* Federal court operations and administration, U.S. Attorneys and U.S. Marshals, Federal rules of evidence and procedure, prisons, judicial ethics, patents, trademarks, copyrights, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(3) *Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights:* Civil rights and liberties, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(4) *Subcommittee on Crime:* Drug enforcement, fraud, organized crime and racketeering, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(5) *Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations:* Administrative law, claims against the United States, ethics in government, legal services, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(6) *Subcommittee on Criminal Justice:* Federal Criminal Code, pretrial services, sentencing, parole and pardons, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(7) *Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees, and International Law:* Immigration and naturalization, citizenship, admission of refugees, treaties and international agreements, passports, foreign sovereign immunity, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(b) The Chairman of the Committee and the ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting members, of each subcommittee to which such Chairman or ranking Minority Member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such subcommittee.

Rule VII. Powers and Duties of Subcommittees. Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the chairman and other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

Rule VIII. Non-Legislative Reports. No report of the Committee or a subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and been given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays).

Rule IX. Committee Records. The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with Rule XXXVI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chairman shall notify the ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any member of the Committee.

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GPO: 1989 94-147 (mi)